

ASSESSMENT OF BASIC NEEDS OF LIFE OF URBAN HOUSELESS PEOPLE IN KANPUR CITY, INDIA

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Assessment of basic needs of food and clothing of urban homeless people in Kanpur city, India

The article analyses the condition of food, clothing and other supportive aids of the homeless population of Kanpur city. The study is based on a primary source of data generated through a comprehensive field survey in the city in 2012. Overall analysis of the study reveals that more than three-quarters of the expenditure of the homeless population is on food, followed by the expenditure on miscellaneous things like clothing, health care, and education. The majority of homeless people fulfill their food requirements by purchasing cooked food or self-cooked food from the city while the rest of the population survives on foraging. Moreover, nearly two-thirds of the total homeless population have two meals per day, while more than one-tenth of the homeless population is unable to secure even a single meal per day. More than half of the homeless population possess only one set of wearing clothes, whereas about two-fifths of the homeless people have two sets.

Key words: food, clothing, supportive aids, homeless population, Kanpur city, India

INTRODUCTION

Absolute poverty exists when people are unable to satisfy their basic needs for food, clothing, shelter, health, education and so on. It is generally believed that poverty is caused by economic underdevelopment (Yapa 1998). Individuals in the lowest income group are more dissatisfied with aspects of themselves and their social performance than those in the higher income groups (Parker and Kleiner 1970). The scale and depth of absolute poverty in urban areas of Asia has long been underestimated for two reasons. The first is that estimates are based only on income levels or consumption levels and take no account of other deprivations such as very poor housing conditions and lack of basic services. The second is that the income-based poverty lines used to make these estimates, are set too low in relation to the costs of basic needs in most urban centres (Satterthwaite 1995, Wratten 1995 and UNCHS 1996). According to Sen (1976), two distinct problems must be faced in the measurement of poverty: a) identifying the poor among the total population and b) constructing an index of poverty using the available information on the poor. On the basis of monetary indicators, a poverty line is defined as a threshold or level of the indicator below which people are called poor, and above which people are not considered poor. Sen (2000) defines poverty as 'a capability deprivation (that is poverty seen as the lack of the capability to live a minimally decent life)', thus going beyond the traditional concept of poverty as only a lack of income or commodities. In this regard, the most important aspect of well-being is not what one has, but what one can achieve with what one has. Further Sen (1999) focuses on the potential of individuals to achieve and expand on their capabilities. Poverty should be viewed not only as an absence of income, but as an obstacle to the exercise of an individu-

al's capabilities. Thus, the fundamental concepts in Sen's theory are capability and functioning. Capability refers to a person's ability to achieve something and the effective opportunities an individual possesses with regard to the type of life that that individual can lead. Functioning represents an individual's actions and states; the things that a person can be or do in life such as eating well or participating in the community (Sen 1987). Moreover, Alkire and Seth (2015) found a strong reduction in poverty among the poorer population at the national level and in all its forms, but the reduction in poverty in all geographical regions, castes and religious groups has not been recorded uniformly due to personal variations in the determinants of poverty between the general poor population and the poorest social groups.

The ultimate aim of economic growth must be the betterment of living conditions of the poor. Economic growth that does not lead to sharp and sustained reductions in poverty may create more problems than it solves (Jha 2000). However, several studies have been done on the wide variations in standard of living in India by Rath (1973), Chatterjee and Bhattacharya (1974) and Gupta et al. (1983a). Consequently, there are the marked inter-regional variations in the incidence of poverty (Mukherjee 1969, Bardhan 1974, Ahluwalia 1978, Gupta et al. 1983b, Gupta et al. 1983c and Sundaram and Tendulkar 1983).

Moreover, food is the first and foremost basic need of every human being along with clothing and lodging (Denton 1990) and the right to food is the birth right of everyone irrespective of caste, creed, colour or community. Human beings can live without luxuries but cannot survive without food for long (Danquah 1970). Therefore the relationship of food and population growth has also been the main thrust of debate and research among economists, agricultural scientists, geographers, demographers, planners, administrators, etc. For example, Malthus (1798) generalized the problem warning us that since population increases geometrically whereas agricultural production does not, population would grow to the limits of available resources and keep the world in poverty. 'The labouring poor, to use a vulgar expression, seem always to live from hand to mouth. Their present wants employ their whole attention, and they seldom think of the future'. Adam Smith (1776) said that countries are populous not in proportion to the number of people whom their produce can clothe and lodge, but in proportion to that of those whom it can feed. According to Ricardo (2004) in countries with abundant land no increase in the population can be too great as the powers of production are still greater.

The first United Nations document, therefore, explicitly referring to the right to housing is the 'Universal Declaration of Human Rights' (UN 1948), which, at the beginning of Article 25 (1), states that 'everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself [sic] and his [sic] family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services'. Therefore, the present study examines the basic needs of life, namely food, clothing and other supportive aids (it means the informal kind of helps namely, *Sadka*¹, *Zakaat*², *Daan*³, *Langa*⁴, *Bhandara*⁵, etc. provided to the homeless people by the

¹ An act of atoning for sin or wrong doing especially by appeasing god.

² A particular alms given away by Muslims annually at the rate of 2.5% on net property.

³ A voluntary gift (as of money, service or lenient attitude) for needy people.

⁴ Money or goods offered to the poor people at the time of some occasions.

⁵ A ceremonial feast with great delight made for many people.

general population for the survival of the homeless population in the city of Kanpur. Census enumerators are instructed to take note of the possible places where the homeless population is likely to live such as on the roadside, pavements, in hume pipes, under staircases or in the open, temples, mandaps, platforms and the like (Census of India 1991). However, in this study, homeless population is defined as persons who do not live in a house, have few possessions with them, usually sleep and live in informal places, not meant for human habitation, excluding the slums dwellers, nomadic tribal people (gipsies) and Hindu holy men (Shamshad 2015). The term 'house' refers to the physical structure of a dwelling with roof and wall, as a separate unit having a separate main entrance into it from the public way. It may be inhabited or vacant. It may be used for residential or non-residential purposes or both (Census of India 2001). The people living in the Jhuggi-Jhoparies (in Delhi), Jhopadpattis (in Mumbai), Bastees (in Kolkata), Cheri⁶ (in Chennai), etc. (Siddhartha and Mukherjee 2008, p. 201) are not considered as homeless populations because they have roofs over their heads and also have the legal right of ownership of the land. In addition to it, the gipsy tribal communities like 'Banjaras', 'Nats', 'Haburas', 'Bhubadiyas', 'Madaries', 'Lohars' (a nomadic tribe involved in 'the blacksmith trade) and Hindu 'Sadhus'(wandering ascetics), who travel around India carrying few possessions, dressed only in loincloths and giving up all worldly attachments in order to obtain enlightenment, have been excluded from land ownership and are not considered homeless (Tipple and Speak 2005).

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The present research work analyses the two remaining basic needs (food and clothing) of the shelterless people because these people live in the condition of absolute poverty wherein an individual is unable to access the minimum basic needs of life namely food, clothing, shelter, health, education, etc. The Encyclopedia Britannica (2008) defines poverty as 'the state of one who lacks a usual or socially acceptable amount of money or material possessions. [...] Whatever definition one uses, authorities and laymen alike commonly assume that the effects of poverty are harmful to both individuals and society' Poverty is generally measured in terms of food or food security which is defined in terms of per capita expenditure of a person on calories that are essential for survival. Therefore, the study examines expenditure incurred on food, sources of food available, types of fuels used for cooking and frequency of food eaten during the day by the homeless population in Kanpur city, the work also highlights the number of clothes possessed by homeless people in the city, and it also analyses other supportive aids (charities) available to the homeless masses for their survival.

THE STUDY AREA

Kanpur city is located in the central part of the state of Uttar Pradesh (Fig. 1)⁷. It was the largest as well as most populous metropolitan city of the state till Indian Census of 2001. After Census of India (2011), it slipped down to the second posi-

⁶ Jhuggi-jhoparies, Jhopadpattis, Bastees and Cheri refer to the shacks found in irregular settlements or kinds of informal settlements.

⁷ The shape of Kanpur city (Fig. 1) in the fourth picture is a little bit different from the third picture because it has been extracted from the Kanpur Nagar district wherein the exact shape of it at administrative level is not available.

tion after Lucknow (2,815,601), the capital city of the state. According to 2011 Census, the city had a population of 2.8 million (2,767,031 persons) which made it the twelfth most highly populated city in India. The city has been known as the economic and industrial capital of Uttar Pradesh. The municipal area of Kanpur city is about 605 square kilometres. The city is administratively divided into 6 zones and 110 wards (the inner core area of Kanpur constitutes 67 wards) with an average ward population ranging between 20,000 and 25,000 persons (Kanpur city Development Plan 2006).

The data has been collected at ward level but analysis has been made at the zone level (Fig. 1) because the geographical area of wards is much smaller than zones. Moreover, the number of homeless households is higher in Zone 1 than all the zones of Kanpur city because it is the old part of the city which is characterized by high concentration of administrative, commercial and manufacturing enterprises, high population density, good connectivity of railways and roads, etc. that attract petty workers in large numbers.

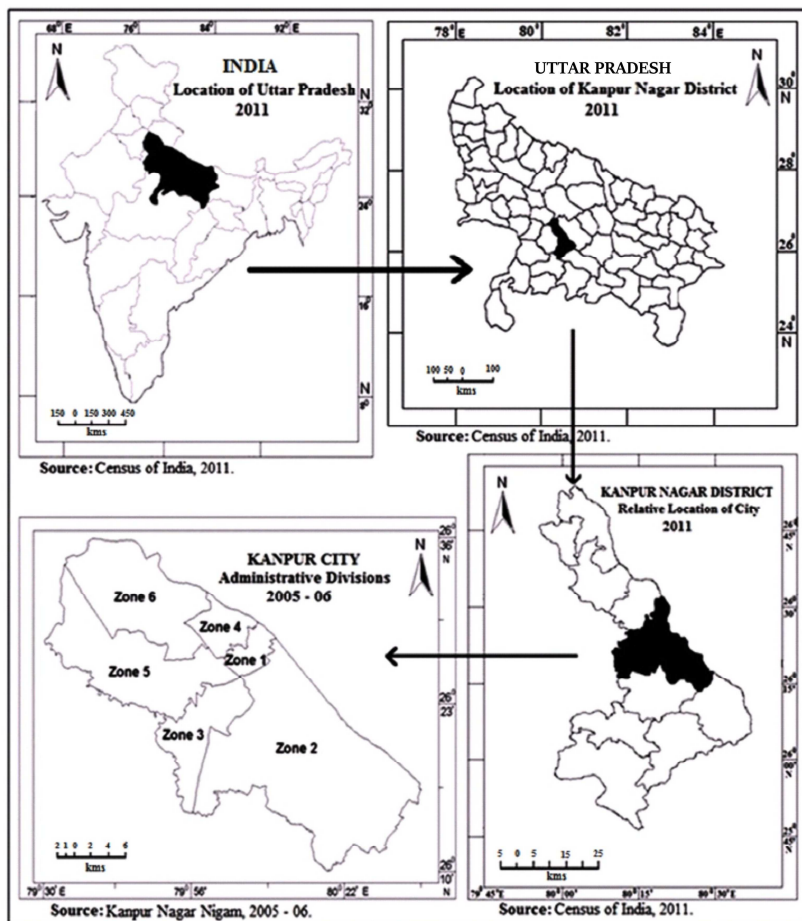


Fig 1. Location of the Study Area (Kanpur city)

Zone 2 is the largest zone of the Kanpur city in terms of area, most of the wards of this zone are newly developed and witness the characteristics of both the rural as well as urban land use, excluding a few wards like Zazmau North and Zazmau South. The Cantonment, Aerodrome and C.O.D. (Central Ordinance Depot) are also part of this zone. The southern part in the middle of Kanpur city is occupied by the Zone 3, through which the National Highway 86 (NH 86) also called the Hamirpur Road passes. Zone 4 is also characterized by an older part of the city but it is more residential in character followed by commercial activities. Zone 5 lies in the south-western part of the city and the railway line passes through the middle of this zone. No sample of homeless households has been taken from the Armapur Estate of this zone because of the total absence of homeless population in that area. Zone 6 is one of the newly settled parts of the city located along the Grand Trunk Road which provides broad spacious pavements for living and sleeping for the homeless population.

DATA AND METHODS

The present study is based on a primary source of data generated through a comprehensive field survey of Kanpur city in 2012. Having identified the homeless households in prior visits to each ward, the individual slips (questionnaires) were used to ease the task of survey in the city. The information was gathered by the investigator through the direct questionnaire to the respondents face to face. Among the total 110 wards of the Kanpur city, the homeless population was found only in 96 wards and Cantonment area while homelessness was not found in the remaining 14 wards, Armapur estate, Aerodrome and C.O.D. (Central Ordinance Depot) areas during the survey of the city.

The ward is the smallest administrative unit in Kanpur city and the homeless household has been taken as the smallest unit for data collection. For ease of understanding, the collected data were spatially presented through a zone-wise limit of the city. The initial plan was to select 30 percent of homeless households randomly from each ward. However, the three pilot surveys were carried out in the city during May, August and November in 2011, in these surveys. It was observed that the number of homeless households often varied with time even within a day and from one place to another in an area. Thus, the four periods of time in a day, namely early morning (6 am to 9 am), noon (12 pm to 3 pm), evening (6 pm to 9 pm) and late night (9 pm to 12 midnight) were taken to carry out the survey on homeless households, in which two periods (i.e. early morning and late night) experienced the large number of homeless households due to space available for sleeping/living after closing of shops/markets, and to take rest after work as a casual workers in day time, while the other two periods (i.e. noon and evening) witnessed the small number of homeless households due to opening of shops/markets, and the working hours as people mostly used to go to jobs during day time. Moreover, some homeless households were very difficult to identify at all, at any particular place and time due to their lack of fixed abode and hidden nature (not easy to recognize among the general public that an individual man is either homeless or not). Therefore, 10 per cent of homeless households were considered hidden because during pilot surveys most probably around 10 per cent of households were unidentified and unverified by the municipal corporation and inhabitants of the city (Pleace et al. 1997 and Feantsa 1999, p. 10).

A random sampling was used to obtain information from the homeless households. When an actual count of the homeless is attempted, it was found that this is a highly mobile population and, thus, very difficult to track and estimate accurately. Because, the problem of mobility and the hidden nature of homelessness affect the estimates of the homeless populations as it sometimes leads the researcher to undercounts or double counts. Consequently, the homeless households in prior visits in each ward (the boundary of the ward has been kept as the smallest administrative unit and homeless household has been taken as the smallest unit for data collection) were identified and a tentative list for them was prepared by the investigator for their easy random selection of the samples for the collection of the data.

Keeping these things in mind, a sample of 25 per cent of homeless households was randomly selected for the survey from the tentative list of each ward. Finally, the sampled homeless households of all the wards lying in a zone were summed up zone-wise for easy spatial data analysis. The survey consisted of 1 384 homeless households of Kanpur city whereas the total number of the sampled homeless population of the city was 2 353 which is a summation of the total homeless households (1 384) and homeless households' family members (969) – see Tab. 1.

Tab. 1. Distribution of surveyed homeless households in Kanpur City, 2012

Zone No	No. of homeless households	No. of homeless households with families	No. of homeless households' family members	No. of homeless population
	1	2	3	4 (1+3)
Zone 1	557	24	96	653
Zone 2	113	33	152	265
Zone 3	148	45	189	337
Zone 4	195	18	90	285
Zone 5	173	37	166	339
Zone 6	198	71	276	474
Total	1 384	228	969	2 353

Source: Based on primary survey.

The questions asked for the concerned objectives were:

- 1) Monthly expenditure: food, clothing, medicine, education and miscellaneous;
- 2) Food sources: purchase, self-cooked, foraging, charity, hotel as a cook/waiter and Sadka/Zakaat;
- 3) How many times do you take food in a day: one time, two times, three times, more than three times and no food;
- 4) Sources of fuel for food cooking: wood, shrubs, coal, animal dung, kerosene oil, electricity and LPG;
- 5) How many sets of clothes do you possess? one set, two sets and three sets, and
- 6) Other sources of income and services: food, clothing, child care, job training, transportation assistance, permanent housing, family violence counselling, sexu-

al counselling, financial assistance, legal assistance, food stamps, medicaid or medicare treatment, immunization, substance abuse care, child support, employer wages, pension, advice, asking for money on streets, unemployment benefits, family and friends' help and Sadka/Zakaat.

THE RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Out of the total selected homeless households (1384), the proportion of homeless male population was (91.79 %) very much greater than the homeless female population (8.21 %) in the city. A huge chunk (89.00 %) of the homeless comprised the working age-group (19-64 years of age) while a very little fraction of the homeless consisted of the juvenile (below 19 years of age) and the old (above 65 years of age) population altogether in the city. Nearly fifty percent of homeless respondents were found to be married, followed by the un-married, widowed and separated or divorced population. The two religions, namely Hindu and Muslim altogether dominated the bulk of homeless population of the city in which the majority of the homeless persons belonged to the Hindus, who were more than seven times more numerous than the Muslims. The majority of the homeless population in the city was composed of OBCs⁸ people (42.13 %), followed by the general category population (25.09 %), SCs population (24.37 %) and STs population (3.26 %). The rate of illiteracy among the homeless respondents was much higher (61.42 %) than the literacy rate (38.58 %). The ratio of homeless workers exceeded that of homeless non-workers and the majority of the workers were unskilled as well as daily casual workers in the city.

MONTHLY EXPENDITURE FOR VARIOUS PURPOSES

The percentage distribution of data regarding monthly expenditure for various purposes by the homeless population is set out in the Tab. 2. This table demonstrates the level of expenditure on the two most fundamental and traditional basic human needs, namely food and clothing, excluding the shelter (as the needs of shelterless or homeless people themselves are analysed here), as well as the expenditure on three modern basic needs namely health, education and recreation (recreation being imbedded in the category of miscellaneous expenditure).

It will be seen from Tab. 2 that more than three-quarters of the overall monthly expenditure of the homeless population is spent on food, followed by the expenditure on miscellaneous things, clothing, health services and education. It means that the food and the miscellaneous things constitute almost 95% of the total expenditure of the homeless population (miscellaneous items also include the various consumptive ingredients like tea, refreshment, beer, alcoholic drinks, tobacco, cigarettes, etc.). Only marginal differences have been observed between the monthly expenditure of the homeless males and females for various purposes.

Another important reference may be drawn from the data given in Tab. 2, that in each zone of the city, more than three-quarters of the expenditure of the home-

⁸ Reservation in India is the process of facilitating a person in education, scholarship, jobs, promotion, etc. Reservation is governed by constitutional laws, statutory laws, and local rules and regulations. Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs) and Other Backward Classes (OBCs) are the reserved categories and remaining share of the population, which is not entitled to reservation, is called the general category.

less people is spent on food and, nearly one-fifth on miscellaneous purposes throughout the city, while the total expenditure incurred on clothing, health services and education does not exceed even more than seven percent in any zone of the city 6.

Tab. 2. Distribution of monthly expenditure for various purposes by homeless population (in %)

Zones	Sex/ Total	Per month expenditure for various purposes					
		Food	Clothes	Health Services	Education	Miscellaneous	Total
Zone 1	Male	75.66	5.70	0.67	0.12	17.85	100.00
	Female	75.13	3.95	1.37	1.82	17.74	100.00
	Total	75.65	5.64	0.69	0.17	17.85	100.00
Zone 2	Male	76.84	4.24	0.40	-	18.52	100.00
	Female	74.70	2.08	0.49	0.65	22.09	100.00
	Total	76.75	4.16	0.40	0.03	18.66	100.00
Zone 3	Male	76.74	2.65	0.47	0.50	19.65	100.00
	Female	80.85	1.39	0.94	0.82	15.99	100.00
	Total	77.11	2.54	0.51	0.53	19.31	100.00
Zone 4	Male	77.10	2.73	0.37	0.11	19.68	100.00
	Female	72.14	2.89	0.62	0.60	23.75	100.00
	Total	76.92	2.74	0.38	0.13	19.83	100.00
Zone 5	Male	75.97	3.25	0.46	0.45	19.86	100.00
	Female	74.89	4.31	0.62	0.70	19.48	100.00
	Total	75.90	3.32	0.47	0.47	19.84	100.00
Zone 6	Male	76.07	3.56	0.68	0.43	19.27	100.00
	Female	72.08	4.00	0.85	1.13	21.94	100.00
	Total	75.67	3.61	0.69	0.50	19.53	100.00
Total	Male	76.14	4.28	0.57	0.24	18.78	100.00
	Female	74.89	3.38	0.91	1.10	19.72	100.00
	Total	76.07	4.24	0.58	0.28	18.83	100.00

Source: Based on primary survey.

Further examination of Tab. 2 indicates that the homeless males experienced more expenditure on food than the females in all the zones, except in Zone 3 where females recorded greater expenditure on food per month than the males, this is because most of the homeless females were mentally or physically disabled, divorced, separated, widowed, run-aways and thrown-aways, so that they cannot work and identified as non-workers who rendered as homeless on the footpaths for two square meals in a day through foraging.

Out of the total selected homeless respondents (1 384), 1 287 homeless persons considered normal mental health, while only 97 were found to be mentally ill. Among them, 1 276 were males in which 75 persons were mentally disabled while 1 202 had normal conscious minds. The respective figures for the homeless female respondents were 108, 22 and 86.

Regarding the monthly expenditure on clothes by homeless males and females, the ratio of males surmounts the females in Zones 1, 2 and 3; whereas in Zones 4,

5, and 6, the share of females oversteps that of the males. Moreover, the proportion of homeless females exceeds that of males in terms of monthly expenditure on health services and education in the whole of Kanpur city. This is the case of those females who are living on the footpaths with their families as homeless persons and their needs for food, clothing, health services, education, etc., at the living places, are provided and managed by homeless male family members. No definite pattern could be observed between males and females in the whole study area regarding miscellaneous expenditure per month.

SOURCES OF FOOD FOR HOMELESS POPULATION

The zone wise percentage distribution of sources of food for the homeless population has been given in Tab. 3. The data clearly depicts that the majority of homeless people fulfill their food requirements by purchasing the cooked food while nearly one-third of the population eat self-cooked food in the city (see Figs. 2 and 3). More than eleven percent of homeless persons depend on foraging and different charities (Zakaat, Sadqa, Daan, Bhandara, etc.) for their daily food requirements. A negligible ratio of the homeless population eats food free of cost at the hotels where they work as cooks or waiters. Under the category of homeless people who secure their food through purchasing cooked food from hotels, males registered a higher proportion than the females. There is predominance of females in the categories of obtaining food through foraging and charities, while more or less the same ratio has been registered between males and females who depend on self-cooked food.

Zone wise analysis of the data provided in Tab. 3 shows that the persons eating purchased food have registered the highest share of the homeless population in two zones, namely Zone 1 and Zone 4. The reason for this lies in the fact that these two zones (Zone 1 and 4) are the most congested zones of Kanpur city, and because of this the homeless people do not have enough space to cook their food and keep the cooking utensils and materials safe from thieves. Moreover, a larger number of individual homeless households live in these zones (but have their families at their native places) rather than the homeless family households. Being alone, they prefer and find it more convenient to eat at the hotels by paying money rather than cooking themselves.

On the other hand, the homeless people who eat self-cooked food are found in the largest proportion in Zones 2, 3, 5, and 6. The categories of foraging and different charities as sources of food registered more or less equal percentages of the homeless people falling under them, in all the zones of the city, except in Zone 3 where the largest percentage difference between the foraging and charities is recorded. The homeless persons who eat food free of cost at the hotels as cooks or waiters at the respective hotels are accounted the highest in Zone 5.

Among the homeless people who depend on cooked food through purchasing, the homeless males make up a larger proportion compared to homeless females in the whole city. In Zones 2, 3, 4, and 6, the ratio of homeless males is larger than the females among the people who eat the self-cooked food, but the reverse trend has been recorded in Zones 1 and 6. Another striking fact revealed from Table 3 is that there is predominance of homeless females in the categories of foraging and charities as sources of food over the homeless males in all the zones of Kanpur city.

Tab. 3. Distribution of sources of food for the homeless population (in %)

Zones	Sex/ Total	Sources of food					Total
		Purchased	Self-Cooked	Foraging	Charity	Hotel (being a cook/waiter)	
Zone 1	Male	60.37	19.31	10.09	10.23	-	100.00
	Female	16.33	22.45	30.61	30.61	-	100.00
	Total	57.47	19.52	11.44	11.57	-	100.00
Zone 2	Male	26.32	50.38	11.28	11.28	0.75	100.00
	Female	5.88	23.53	35.29	35.29	-	100.00
	Total	24.00	47.33	14.00	14.00	0.67	100.00
Zone 3	Male	29.41	50.59	12.35	6.47	1.18	100.00
	Female	20.34	35.59	22.03	22.03	-	100.00
	Total	27.07	46.72	14.85	10.48	0.87	100.00
Zone 4	Male	46.88	20.49	15.28	14.58	2.78	100.00
	Female	25.00	16.67	29.17	29.17	-	100.00
	Total	45.19	20.19	16.35	15.71	2.56	100.00
Zone 5	Male	37.02	47.12	6.73	6.25	2.88	100.00
	Female	10.71	32.14	21.43	21.43	14.29	100.00
	Total	33.90	45.34	8.47	8.05	4.24	100.00
Zone 6	Male	33.65	53.37	5.77	5.77	1.44	100.00
	Female	6.25	56.25	18.75	18.75	-	100.00
	Total	30.00	53.75	7.50	7.50	1.25	100.00
Total	Male	46.21	32.63	10.35	9.64	1.18	100.00
	Female	15.31	32.06	25.36	25.36	1.91	100.00
	Total	42.83	32.57	11.99	11.36	1.26	100.00

Source: Based on primary survey.



Fig. 2. Self Cooked Food, Juhi Kala



Fig. 3. Purchased Food, Nayaganj

SOURCES OF FUELS FOR COOKING THE FOOD

The percentage distribution of data about the sources of fuel used for cooking the food by the homeless population has been presented in Tab. 4. The homeless population, who eat the self-cooked food, used wood, shrubs, cow-dung, kerosene oil, coal and LPG gas as different sources of fuel for cooking, with wood occupying the first place, followed by shrubs, cow-dung, kerosene oil, coal and LPG gas. The zone-wise analysis shows that the maximum proportion of fuel used by the homeless population is wood in each zone of the city except in Zone 6 where shrubs are used in the largest quantities, wood being left to the second position. Further, the ratio of shrubs used as a fuel for cooking stands second after wood in Zones 1, 2, 4 and 5, whereas in Zone 3, the use of cow-dung occupies second place pushing the use of shrubs into third place.

Tab. 4. Distribution of sources of fuels used for cooking by the homeless population in Kanpur city (in %)

Zones	Sex/ Total	Sources of fuels for cooking						Total
		Wood	Shrubs	Cow-dung	Kerosene oil	Coal	LPG	
Zone 1	Male	40.64	36.75	13.43	5.30	3.89	-	100.00
	Female	37.14	37.14	20.00	5.71	-	-	100.00
	Total	40.25	36.79	14.15	5.35	3.46	-	100.00
Zone 2	Male	39.39	33.33	14.55	6.06	6.67	-	100.00
	Female	37.50	25.00	-	12.50	25.00	-	100.00
	Total	39.31	32.95	13.87	6.36	7.51	-	100.00
Zone 3	Male	45.45	17.48	20.28	5.59	10.49	0.70	100.00
	Female	36.00	28.00	34.00	2.00	-	-	100.00
	Total	43.01	20.21	23.83	4.66	7.77	0.52	100.00
Zone 4	Male	53.33	28.89	11.11	3.33	1.11	2.22	100.00
	Female	20.00	20.00	-	40.00	20.00	-	100.00
	Total	51.58	28.42	10.53	5.26	2.11	2.11	100.00
Zone 5	Male	44.04	27.46	16.58	7.25	4.15	0.52	100.00
	Female	40.00	20.00	20.00	15.00	5.00	-	100.00
	Total	43.66	26.76	16.90	7.98	4.23	0.47	100.00
Zone 6	Male	29.77	32.09	19.53	8.37	6.05	4.19	100.00
	Female	23.68	39.47	26.32	7.89	2.63	-	100.00
	Total	28.85	33.20	20.55	8.30	5.53	3.56	100.00
Total	Male	40.59	30.49	16.07	6.24	5.42	1.19	100.00
	Female	33.33	31.41	24.36	7.69	3.21	-	100.00
	Total	39.68	30.60	17.11	6.43	5.14	1.04	100.00

Source: Based on primary survey.

As can be seen from Tab. 4, kerosene oil and coal have been found to occupy the higher share among the sources of fuel in Zone 6 and Zone 3 respectively. The homeless population was found to be using traditional sources of fuel more than the modern sources, largely because the traditional sources like shrubs, cow-dung

and wood are easily available and can be arranged at a very low cost or even free of cost, whereas the modern means like kerosene oil, coal and LPG are very costly as well as not easily accessible to them.

The share of traditional fuels (wood, shrubs and cow-dung taken together) accounts for 87 % against the share of modern fuels (kerosene oil, coal and LPG gas) namely 12.61 %. The poor have very limited access to kerosene oil in the city due to financial limitations and lack of ration cards, and simultaneously supply of kerosene oil is not good for them because owners of the public distribution system shops are not regularly distributing kerosene oil. The proportion of consumption of the traditional fuels is found to be 91.19, 86.10, 87.05, 90.53, 87.32 and 82.60 % respectively in Zones 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, in comparison to modern fuels having a respective shares of only 8.81, 13.90, 12.95, 9.47, 12.68 and 17.40 %.

FREQUENCY OF FOOD TAKEN PER DAY BY HOMELESS POPULATION

Fig. 4 presents data regarding the frequency of food taken per day by the homeless population. This table reveals that nearly two-thirds of the total homeless population has been recorded to have two meals per day, while 15.11 % of the homeless people were having food only once a day. A share of 7.34 % is registered by the people who were able to have three meals per day. The most striking feature revealed in Fig. 4 is that more than one-tenth of the homeless population was found unable to secure even a single meal per day, thus being hungry for the whole time with their empty stomachs continuously craving for food. The homeless females are found more prone to fall under the 'one time' food per day category and under the 'no food' category than the homeless males. A reason for this gender dichotomy is that homeless females were mentally and physically disabled, divorced, separated, widowed, run-aways and thrown-aways, etc. The proportion of homeless males is higher than that of the females only in the category of two meals per day.

The zone-wise proportion of homeless people having food once in a day varies from 10 to 20 % with the maximum and minimum percentages being recorded in Zone 2 and Zone 6 respectively. The homeless population having two meals per day is observed more than fifty percent in all the zones, except in Zone 3 where it is found to be a little bit less than fifty percent. The marked range of variation is identified among the homeless population who are taking three meals per day varying from 1.66 % in Zone 1 to 19.63 % in Zone 3. The most deprived section of the homeless population who do not have any means to fulfil their daily food requirements even with one meal in a day, and wander hungry all day long, is largely found in Zone 4 (see Fig. 4).

Barring the few exceptions, the proportion of homeless females generally exceeds the homeless males in all the groups in terms of frequency of food taken per day by the homeless population, excluding the category of two times food in a day wherein the ratio of males oversteps the females in all the zones. However, a very negligible share is recorded by the homeless people who happen to take food more than three times per day.

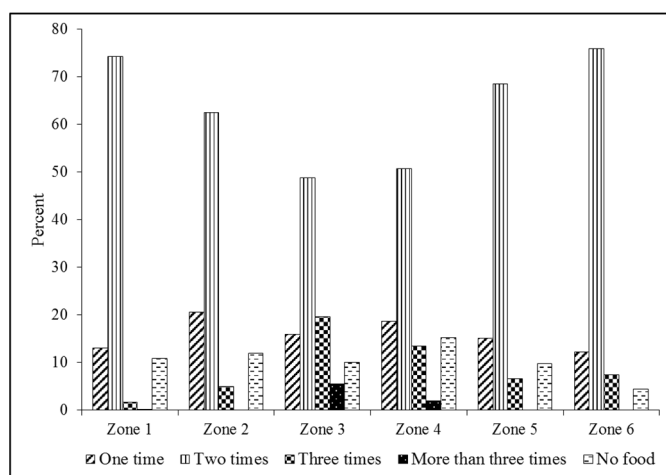


Fig. 4. Frequency of food taken per day by houseless population in Kanpur city

Source: Based on primary survey

AVAILABILITY OF CLOTHES TO THE HOMELESS POPULATION

Tab. 5 provides data regarding the availability of clothes for the homeless population. Clothing is the second basic need out of three fundamental requirements of human life. Where the number of sets of clothes possessed by the homeless population other than those which they had on their body at the time of survey is concerned, more than half of the homeless people possess only one set of clothes, while about two-fifths of the homeless persons have two sets. Only 7.19 % of the homeless people in the whole of Kanpur city have been found to possess more than two sets of clothes. The ratio of homeless males having two or more than two sets of clothes exceeded the ratio of homeless females who are found predominantly in the category of people having only one set of wearing clothes due to their physical disabilities and social disaffiliation.

Tab. 5 shows that in three zones, the greater proportions of homeless persons who have only one set of clothes are identified in Zones 1, 3 and 4, while the homeless people who possess two sets of wearing of clothes are recorded in larger numbers in Zones 2, 5 and 6. The highest and lowest range of people having only one set of clothes is registered in Zone 1 and Zone 6 respectively; the respective values for people having two sets are recorded in Zone 2 and Zone 1. These two categories together constitute more than one-third of the homeless population in all the zones of the city except in Zone 1.

Moreover, the homeless people who possess more than two sets of clothes are ascertained above ten percent only in three zones namely Zones 3, 5 and 6, whereas merely 0.93 % of such homeless people are found in Zone 2.

Tab. 5. Percentage of sets of clothes for the homeless population

Zones	Sex/ Total	Sets of clothes			
		One set	Two sets	More than two sets	Total
Zone 1	Male	65.88	30.06	4.05	100.00
	Female	57.89	36.84	5.26	100.00
	Total	65.57	30.33	4.10	100.00
Zone 2	Male	36.08	62.89	1.03	100.00
	Female	60.00	40.00	-	100.00
	Total	38.32	60.75	0.93	100.00
Zone 3	Male	44.44	41.27	14.29	100.00
	Female	63.64	36.36	-	100.00
	Total	47.30	40.54	12.16	100.00
Zone 4	Male	52.75	40.66	6.59	100.00
	Female	72.73	9.09	18.18	100.00
	Total	53.89	38.86	7.25	100.00
Zone 5	Male	38.31	51.30	10.39	100.00
	Female	56.25	31.25	12.50	100.00
	Total	40.00	49.41	10.59	100.00
Zone 6	Male	38.10	49.40	12.50	100.00
	Female	40.00	55.00	5.00	100.00
	Total	38.30	50.00	11.70	100.00
Total	Male	51.76	40.97	7.27	100.00
	Female	57.14	36.73	6.12	100.00
	Total	52.16	40.65	7.19	100.00

Source: Based on primary survey.

The gender wise analysis of the data given in Tab. 5 shows that among the homeless population who has one set of clothes, the ratio of homeless females overstepped the homeless males except in Zone 1. On the contrary, the share of homeless males surpassed the homeless females among the homeless people who possess two sets of clothes except in Zones 1 and 6. The proportion of homeless females also exceeded the homeless males among the homeless population who have more than two sets of clothes in Zones 1, 4 and 5, while the ratio of homeless males overtakes those of homeless females in the same category in Zone 6, whereas no homeless females have been recorded in Zones 2 and 3 under this category.

OTHER SUPPORTIVE AIDS OF THE HOMELESS POPULATION

Tab. 6 provides information about the percentage distribution of other supportive services availed by the homeless population in Kanpur city. It is evident from this table that nearly twenty percent of homeless folks are found to be supported in the category of charities and foraging, followed by clothing, food stamps, asking for money, friends' help, advice, families' help, medicare employers' aid and pensions. The availability of food stamps and clothing to the homeless population in this table are those which were provided by the general population to the homeless persons as charity, while in previous tables, the food and clothing were obtained by the homeless population themselves through their earnings.

Tab. 6. Distribution of other supportive aids for homeless population (in %)

Other supportive aids for homeless population													
Zones	Sex/ Total	Charities	Foraging	Clothing	Food stamps	Asking for money	Friends' help	Advice	Families' help	Medicare	Employers' aids	Pensions	Total
Zone 1	Male	23.02	26.86	18.47	23.02	5.28	0.48	-	-	2.88	-	-	100.00
	Female	22.54	26.76	19.72	16.90	8.45	-	-	-	5.63	-	-	100.00
	Total	22.95	26.84	18.65	22.13	5.74	0.41	-	-	3.28	-	-	100.00
Zone 2	Male	15.60	16.51	16.51	15.60	12.84	7.34	6.42	4.59	2.75	1.83	-	100.00
	Female	19.05	19.05	19.05	14.29	7.14	4.76	9.52	-	7.14	-	-	100.00
	Total	16.56	17.22	17.22	15.23	11.26	6.62	7.28	3.31	3.97	1.32	-	100.00
Zone 3	Male	10.84	13.25	15.66	10.84	14.46	16.87	10.84	3.61	2.41	1.20	-	100.00
	Female	14.00	17.00	19.00	14.00	16.00	15.00	2.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	-	100.00
	Total	12.57	15.30	17.49	12.57	15.30	15.85	6.01	2.19	1.64	1.09	-	100.00
Zone 4	Male	16.88	15.15	16.02	13.85	11.26	11.69	5.63	3.03	0.87	5.19	0.43	100.00
	Female	17.07	17.07	14.63	9.76	7.32	14.63	14.63	2.44	2.44	-	-	100.00
	Total	16.91	15.44	15.81	13.24	10.66	12.13	6.99	2.94	1.10	4.41	0.37	100.00
Zone 5	Male	21.05	18.42	17.11	11.84	11.84	3.95	2.63	3.95	2.63	3.95	2.63	100.00
	Female	22.73	18.18	18.18	15.91	13.64	4.55	-	-	-	6.82	-	100.00
	Total	21.67	18.33	17.50	13.33	12.50	4.17	1.67	2.50	1.67	5.00	1.67	100.00
Zone 6	Male	21.84	11.49	9.77	12.64	14.37	18.39	1.72	6.32	-	3.45	-	100.00
	Female	20.41	12.24	14.29	18.37	14.29	18.37	-	2.04	-	-	-	100.00
	Total	21.52	11.66	10.76	13.90	14.35	18.39	1.35	5.38	-	2.69	-	100.00
Total	Male	19.72	19.27	16.06	16.97	9.91	7.89	3.12	2.66	1.93	2.20	0.28	100.00
	Female	18.73	18.73	17.87	14.99	11.82	9.80	3.46	0.86	2.59	1.15	-	100.00
	Total	19.49	19.14	16.49	16.49	10.37	8.35	3.20	2.23	2.09	1.95	0.21	100.00

Source: Based on primary survey.

Data in Tab. 6 reveal that more than one-quarter of homeless people in Zone 1 are assisted by foraging, with other significant services in the zone being the charities, food stamps and clothing. In Zone 2, the very marginal percentage differences have been observed between the charities, foraging, clothing and food stamps as supportive services availed by the homeless population. The respective figures for the Zone 4 are 16.91, 15.44, 15.81 and 13.24 percent. More than one-fifth is constituted by the charities as supportive services in both Zones 5 and 6.

From the eleven supportive services listed in Tab. 6, only five, namely charities, foraging, clothing, food stamps and asking for money, are found to be most significant services in helping the homeless population, their combined share together constituting more than seventy percent in each zone of the city. On the other hand, the aggregate proportion of the remaining six supportive services namely friends' help, advice, families' help, medicare, employers' help and pensions have not been registered at more than thirty percent in any of the zones in the whole of Kanpur city.

CONCLUSIONS

Overall analysis of the basic needs of life of the shelterless people reveals that more than three-quarters of the overall monthly expenditure by the homeless population is on food, followed by the expenditure on miscellaneous things, clothing, health services, and education. Food and miscellaneous things constitute almost 95 % of the total expenditure of the homeless. Moreover, the majority of homeless people fulfil their food requirements by purchasing cooked food while nearly one-third of the population eat self-cooked food in the city, while more than eleven percent of the homeless masses have to depend on foraging and different charities (Zakaat, Sadqa, Daan, Bhandara, etc.) for their daily food requirements. The homeless population, who eat the self-cooked food, used wood, shrubs, cow-dung, kerosene oil, coal and LPG gas as different sources of fuel for cooking, wherein traditional cooking fuels namely the wood, shrubs and cow-dung together accounted for nearly eighty percent of the fuel used by homeless for fuel for cooking food whereas the remaining share of homeless persons used modern cooking fuels namely kerosene oil, coal and LPG gas to cook their food. Furthermore, nearly two-thirds of the total homeless population has been recorded as having two meals per day, while more than one-tenth of the homeless population was found to be unable to secure even a single meal per day, thus being hungry for the whole time with their empty stomachs continuously craving for food. Such people basically include old persons, beggars, mentally and physically disabled people, newcomers to the city, unemployed people, widowed, divorced/separated, etc. who are rendered homeless on the footpaths but have two square meals in a day. The remaining share of homeless folks either have food only once a day or are able to have three meals per day. The condition of the second basic need of homeless people is that more than half of the homeless people possess only one set of clothes and about two-fifths of the homeless persons have two sets. Only 7.19 % of the homeless people in the whole of Kanpur city have been found to possess more than two sets of clothes. Apart from the basic needs of food and clothing of shelterless people, there are other supportive aids which also directly or indirectly reinforce the food and clothing condition of the homeless population, for example, nearly twenty percent homeless persons are found to be supported by charities and foraging and about one-third proportion of the homeless population by food stamps and clothing, followed by ask-

ing for money, friends' help, advice, families' help, medicare employers' aid and pensions.

SUGGESTIONS

More than one-quarter of homeless people were having food only once a day and unable to secure even a single meal per day, thus being hungry for the whole time with their empty stomachs continuously craving for food. Such people basically include old persons, beggars, mentally and physically disabled people, newcomers to the city, unemployed people, widowed, divorced/separated, etc. Thus, the right to food should take care of the special provision for homeless people, beggars, slum dwellers and various other destitute people. The right to food as a part of the right to development was adopted by the United Nations in 1986. The Right to Development is an inalienable human right by virtue of which every human being can participate in and contribute to and enjoy economic, social, cultural and political development in which all human rights and fundamental freedoms can be fully realized (Article 1, Paragraph 1).

The right to food is a human right that legalizes the right of people to have regular access to an adequate quantity of quality food at affordable prices so that they can feed themselves, and live a life with dignity according to the cultural traditions of the people to which they belong, in other words, it keeps the people free from hunger, food insecurity, malnutrition & under nutrition, various nutritional deficiency disorders, etc. Therefore, the right to food as a fundamental right (Article 21 and directive principle of State policy, Article 47) should be very rigorously applied in the whole country as stated in the National Food Security Bill, 2013. Moreover it should be supported by individuals, civil societies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) so that each and every individual can feel food security and will not crave from hunger. Moreover, there should be a bill for the 'Right to Basic Needs of Life' that includes Food for All, Clothes for All, Shelter for All, Health for All, Education for All, Recreation for All and Social Security for All. There should be the provision of a 'Green Life Card' with the help of which the poor people from marginalized sections of the society can enjoy educational, medical, transport, employment, shelter, and various other infrastructural facilities free of cost from the government regulated sectors and to some extent in the privately owned sectors as well.

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S h a m s h a d

HODNOTENIE ZÁKLADNÝCH POTRIEB STRAVOVANIA A OBLIEKANIA V POPULÁCII ĽUDÍ BEZ DOMOVA V MESTE KANPUR V INDIÍ

Cieľom štúdie je analyzovať podmienky stravovania, šatenia a iných druhov pomoci využívaných populáciou ľudí bez domova v meste Kanpur v Uttar Pradesh v Indii. Štúdia vychádza z primárnych dát získaných prostredníctvom komplexného terénneho výskumu v meste Kanpur v roku 2012.

Na základe 25 % náhodne vybraných prípadov z každej štvrtke bolo zmapovaných 1 384 domácností ľudí bez domova, pričom celkový počet respondentov v meste dosiahol 2 353 (súčet celkového počtu domácností – 1 384 a rodinných príslušníkov v týchto domácnostiach – 969).

Záver tejto štúdie poukazuje na to, že viac ako tri štvrtiny celkových mesačných výdavkov ľudí bez domova boli využité na stravovanie, nasledovali výdavky na rôzne veci – oblečenie, zdravotnú starostlivosť a vzdelanie. Strava a rozličné veci tvorili takmer 95 percent z celkových výdavkov bezdomovcov, pričom do tejto kategórie boli zahrnuté aj rôzne spotrebné položky ako čaj, občerstvenie, pivo, alkoholické nápoje, tabak, cigarety, atď.

Väčšina ľudí bez domova uspokojila svoju potrebu stravovania so zakúpením vareného jedla, kým takmer jedna tretina z nich si sama pripravovala varené jedlo v meste. Zvyšná časť (asi 11 %) bola závislá na vyhľadávaní potravy a každodenné požiadavky na stravu si zabezpečovala aj prostredníctvom rozličných druhov dobročinnosti. Iba zanedbateľná časť skúmanej populácie sa stravovala bezplatne v hoteloch, kde pracovali ako kuchári alebo čašníci.

Bezdomovci, ktorí si pripravujú jedlo sami, používali rozličné zdroje paliva na varenie, najčastejšie to bolo drevo, nasledovali kríky, kravský trus, petrolej, uhlie a propán-bután. Asi dve tretiny bezdomovcov uviedli, že mávajú dve jedlá denne, 15,1 % bezdomovcov jedáva len raz za deň a 7,3 % bezdomovcov si dokázali zabezpečiť až tri jedlá denne. Avšak viac než jedna desatina populácie bezdomovcov si nebola schopná zabezpečiť ani jediné jedlo denne a bola odkázaná na pomoc. Medzi takýchto ľudí patrili osoby vo vysokom veku, žobráci, mentálne a telesne postihnutí, noví prisťahovalci do mesta, nezamestnaní, ovdovení, rozvedení a pod. Viac ako polovica ľudí bez domova v meste Kanpur vlastnila iba jednu sadu oblečenia, približne dve pätiny z nich mali aj náhradné oblečenie a len 7,2 % mali viac ako dve sady oblečenia.

Pokiaľ ide o ďalšie podporné služby poskytované ľuďom bez domova v meste Kanpur, takmer 20 % využívalo služby rôznych druhov charity a poskytovateľov bezplatného stravovania. Nasledovalo poskytovanie oblečenia, potravinové lístky, žobranie peňazí, pomoc priateľov, poradenstvo, pomoc rodinných príslušníkov, zdravotnícka pomoc poskytovaná zamestnávateľmi a dôchodky.